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BIBBY DISTRIBUTION ROLLS OUT REVOLUTIONARY CONCEPT TRAILER FOR SAICA PAPER

Bibby Distribution is hoping to solve the costly transit challenge of water-damaged paper reels after designing a concept trailer now on trial with international manufacturer SAICA Paper.

The new design, developed in conjunction with Don Bur, incorporates a variety of features to prevent water ingress from damaging paper reels, including a triple layer floor and armoured wraparound curtains.

The common problem of water damaged paper reels can prove expensive for manufacturers as they are required to replace damaged goods at their own cost. It is also frustrating for customers who are forced to wait longer for replacement paper to arrive.

SAICA Paper's UK Logistics Manager, Chris Johnson, says: "By designing and investing in a trailer that is tailored to our business, Bibby Distribution has gone beyond what you'd expect from a traditional 3PL.

"The new trailer they have designed will give us a huge competitive advantage because it should solve the problem of wet claims."

The trailer has been in operation since early January and has already received positive feedback, a noteworthy achievement not least as it works out of SAICA Paper's mill in Manchester – a city with an average 152 days of rain a year and the fourth highest rainfall in Britain, according to the Met Office.

Chris adds: "We're still very early into the trial but it's already proving more cost-effective and safer to run, with no wet claims to date despite very wet weather. If the entire fleet comprised this new trailer, I think it would completely transform our operations."

In addition to its water-proofing features, the trailer incorporates a number of features to increase safety and fuel efficiency.

A remote tyre pressure monitoring system warns when the trailer is at risk of a blow out, a roll stability programme has been specifically designed to prevent accidents, and a ground-level coupling system means drivers no longer need risk injury by going onto the vehicle catwalk.

Bibby Distribution collects, transports and processes around 400,000 tonnes of paper reels a year for SAICA Paper to packaging manufacturers across the UK.

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Notes to editors:

As one of the top ten logistics providers in the UK, Bibby Distribution exists to enable other companies to drive value from their supply chain activities. The company specialises in providing contract logistics, warehousing, distribution, systems integration and added value services to a wide range of customers.

Bibby Distribution operates from 90 locations across the UK, employs 2,000 people and manages 2million ft² of warehousing space.

The majority of Bibby Distribution's business is based on long-term partnerships. Its diverse capability also means it can share best practice across the various industry sectors it operates in, from Automotive to FMCG.

Bibby Distribution is part of Bibby Line Group, a diverse and forward-looking family business delivering personal, responsive and flexible customer solutions for over 200 years.

Bibby Line Group is a £1.4 billion business, operating in more than 20 countries, employing over 4,500 people in industries including retail, offshore, financial services, distribution, shipping, marine based businesses, plant hire and woodland burials.

To find out more about Bibby Line Group, visit www.bibbylinegroup.co.uk.

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